Message Text

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P R 251019Z MAY 77 FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8475 INFO AMEMBASSY BONN AMEMBASSY MUSCAT AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

CONFIDENTIAL NAIROBI 6498

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR, PDIP, PFOR, US, KE, GW, MU

SUBJECT: BIOGRAPHIC REPORTING: SHAYKH FARID MBARAK

ALI-HINAI, NEW AMBASSADOR OF OMAN TO THE U.S.

REF: BONN 8722

1. EMBASSY BIO FILES COVER AL-HINAI, KNOWN TO US AS FARID MBARAK ALI HINAWY, TO 1974. BORN IN MOMBASA IN 1930, HE WAS EDUCATED AT VICTORIA COLLEGE IN CAIRO 1937-48 AND IN 1951 ATTENDED GRAY'S INN IN UK. IN 1952 HE WAS ENROLLED AT OXFORD UNIVERSITY AND THE FOLLOWING YEAR TOOK A COURSE FOR DIPLOMATS AT THE BRITISH FOREIGN OFFICE. IN 1960 HE JOINED THE PRE-INDEPENDENCE KENYAN ADMINISTRATION, FIRST AS AN ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER IN KWALE (NEAR THE COAST) AND THEN AS DISTRICT OFFICER IN MOYALE (IN NORTHEASTERN PROVINCE ON KENYA-ETHIOPIA BORDER). IN 1963 HE WAS APPOINTED KENYA'S FIRST CHIEF OF PROTOCOL. THE LATE EMPEROR HAILE SALASSIE AWAREDED NINAWY THE "ORDER OF THE STAR OF ETHIOPIA" IN 1964. IN 1965 KINAWY WAS APPOINTED CHARGE D'AFFAIRES OF THE KENYAN EMBASSY IN PARIS, BUT BY 1967 HAD MOVED TO KENYA'S EMBASSY IN BONN AS COUNSELOR-CHARGE D'AFFAIRES. IN EARLY 1968 HE WAS APPOINTED AMBASSADOR TO CONGO (K) CONFIDENTIAL

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AND IN SEPTEMBER 1970 HE WENT TO CAIRO AS AMBASSADOR TO THE THEN UAR. ONE OF THE MAIN FACTORS IN HIS SELECTION AS AMBASSADOR IN KINSHASA REPORTEDLY WAS HIS ABILITY TO SPEAK FRENCH.

2. HINAWY IS MARRIED TO A SWEDISH WOMAN AND HAS THREE CHILDREN. HE IS A SOPHISTICATED ARAB MUSLIM, AND HAS

BEEN DESCRIBED AS SOCIALLY ATTRACTIVE, FRIENDLY, AND EXTROVERTED. AMEMBASSY KINSHASA REPORTED (A-177 OF SEPTEMBER 17, 1970) THAT HE "FANCIES HIMSELF SOMETHING OF AN OPERATOR AND LIKES TO PASS ON TID-BITS OF GOSSIP. HE HAS, HOWEVER, OCCASIONALLY GIVEN US RELIABLE INFORMATION ON CONGO (BRAZZAVILLE) WHERE HE HAS ALSO BEEN ACCREDITED." HE REPORTEDLY LIKES AMERICANS.

- 3. THE HINAWYS ARE ONE OF MOMBASA'S DISTRINGUISHED ARAB FAMILIES. FARID AND HIS BUSINESSMAN BROTHER IN NAIROBI, FEISAL, WERE IDENTIFIED WITH THE MORE PROGRESSIVE ELEMENTS OF THAT COMMUNITY. THE REASON BEHIND AMBASSADOR HINAWY'S SWITCH OF ALLEGIANCE TO OMAN IS LARGELY THAT HE SAW NO FUTURE FOR HIMSELF, AS AN ARAB, IN KENYA. RELATED TO THIS, HE WAS EXPERIENCING A LOT OF TROUBLE ENROLLING HIS CHILDREN IN KENYA'S BETTER SCHOOLS. HE VISITS KENYA OFTEN AS HE STILL HAS RELATIVES HERE.
- 4. EMBASSY FILES HOLD NO ADVERSE INFORMATION ON AMBASSADOR HINAWY. HOWEVER, FEISAL HINAWY, HIS BROTHER, WORKED AT THIS EMBASSY AS PROTOCOL ASSISTANT 1963-65, WHEN HE VOLUNTARILY RESIGNED. DURING THE PERIOD OF HIS EMPLOYMENT, HE WAS OF SOME CONCERN TO OUR SECURITY OFFICE BECAUSE OF HIS ASSOCIATION WITH A KNOWN KGB REPRESENTATIVE. HE WAS REFUSED REEMPLOYMENT IN 1967 BECAUSE OF THAT.

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TAGS: PINR, PDIP, PFOR, US, KE, GE, MU, (AL-HINAI, SHAYKH FARID MBARAK)

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